Materhorn X: Field studies

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MATTERHORN

MAT**E**RHORN



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Dugway Proving Ground - Topography



Dugway Proving Ground seen from space



Dugway Topography

Elevations & View from Space

Previous Work

Cold-Air Drainage simulations Wind field analysis Slope flow analysis

Planned Work

Extended Flux Sites

Slope Flow Evolution and Interaction

Cold–Air Drainage Model KLAM 21

- Single-layer model
- Predicting depth and the mean wind of a surface based stable layer
- Flow prediction is based on vertically averaged momentum tendency equations.
- Temporal changes in the total heat deficit in the cold air layer heat deficit are calculated from a prescribed local heat loss rate [here 30 W/m²].



Sievers, U., 2005: Das Kaltluft-Abfluss-Modell KLAM_21. Grundlagen, Anwendungen und Handhabung des PC-Modells. Berichte des Deutschen Wetterdienstes 227. Deutscher Wetterdienst, Offenbach a.M., Germany, 101 pp.

























1 hour

















1 hour





⁰³10



Summary – KLAM 21

- The nocturnal wind field at DGP is strongly influenced by thermally driven flows.
- A homogeneous SE down-valley flow results across the basin east of Granite Peak.
- KLAM 21 produces a cold air layer of ~100 m depth.
- Local drainage flows from Granite Peak interact with the SE down-valley flow.

Wind field evolution over DPG during *undisturbed fair weather days*. JJA 1998-2008



Fair weather day: 70% of total global radiation, wind speeds < 3 m/s



Tippetts, J. M., and C. D. Whiteman, 2010: Fair-weather diurnal wind field in a complex mountainous region. Amer. Meteor. Soc. Annual Meeting 9th Student Conference, 16-17 Jan 2010, Atlanta, GA.

Drainage Flow Experiment

- Experiment designed by Al Astling at DPG
- East slope of Granite Mountain

Years 2008-2009 9 SAMS 5 PWIDS 1 32-m tower, 5 levels













Planned Work – MATERHORN-X

Dave Whiteman (Research Professor, University of Utah) Sebastian Hoch (Assistant Research Professor, University of Utah) Matt Jeglum (PhD Student, University of Utah) Leah Campbell (Masters Student, University of Utah

Eric Pardyjak, Jim Steenburgh, Zhaoxia Pu

Research objectives

MATERHORN addresses the interaction of flows of different scales in complex terrain, and their predictability.

Local, thermally driven flows $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ synoptic scale flows

- What drives the temporal evolution and spatial variability of thermally driven flows in the complex terrain around Granite Peak?
- How do these flows interact with the larger scale flows?
- The collected comprehensive dataset is available for **model validation** and **parameterization development**.

What drives the local circulations ?

- Energy budget variations
 - Surface Layer development
 - Boundary Layer evolution

Extended Flux Sites (EFS)

- Observe the spatial and temporal variability of surface—atmosphere interactions: Exchange of heat and momentum.
- Dataset for model validation & parameterization development

3 Sites in different locations near Granite Peak:

- East and West of Granite Peak
- High and low surface albedos (Playa – Sagebrush)
- *Sloping* site and *flat* terrain



ESF (cont.) - Observations

- Full surface energy budget (SEB)
 - 4-Component radiation budget (SW/LW IN/OUT)
 - Ground heat flux
 - Latent heat flux
 - Sensible heat flux (2 levels)
- Temperature fine structure (~ 20 thermocouples)
 - Surface Layer evolution
 - Inversion build-up / super-adiabatic sublayers
 - Radiative flux divergence (modeling, supported by TCs)
- Tethersonde observations (Playa & Sage)
 - Boundary Layer evolution & interaction with larger scale flows

Comprehensive dataset collected for:

- Validation of surface parameterizations Land Surface Models and Initialization
- Data to test Boundary Layer Schemes

Modelers – What data do you need? What would you like to have?

EFS-Playa SITE: A Super EFS (former SLTEST-Site)

Exchange of heat and momentum – a very detailed look.

Extremely homogenous playa surface -Perfectly suited for micro-meteorological observations

- All terms in the temperature tendency equation will be measured as a function of height!
- Dataset for Model Validation & development of new parameterizations

See Eric Pardyjak's talk for all the details!

What are the local circulations ?

- Slope flows and Valley flows. How do these interact?
- Gap flows
- Lake- or Playa Breeze

Granite Peak Slope Experiment

East Slope of Granite Peak

- Slope flow initiation What are the driving cooling processes (SEB, div H and div R)?
- Slope flow variations (spatial along slope; temporal)
- Upslope-downslope transition
- Daytime upslope flow, ridge-top convergence
- Interactions with valley flows

1 EFS-SLOPE (10-m tower) - Extended Flux Site + 3rd Sonic
1 DPG 30-m Tower
5(+) PWIDS (DPG Sonics ? - 2 Levels ? - discuss with Dragan)
5-10 IR Surface temperature / Air temperature
UU Halo Photonics Streamline Doppler Wind LiDAR - slope scans



30 m Tower DPG photo





LiDAR observations with UU LiDAR – along-slope scans, range ~100-650 m





Flow interactions – with larger-scale flows

- Slope flow Valley flow interactions
- Gap flows channeled flows
- Wakes

Tethersonde observations

- ESF Playa and ESF Sage
- Boundary Layer Development interaction between local scale and synoptic scale flows

SoDAR observations

• 2 UU mini-SoDARs – 1 UND SoDARs. – East & West of Granite Peak, Gap

Upper Air Soundings during MATERHORN-X

- 160 sondes budgeted in our project (8 per IOP)
- MATERHORN participants need to plan the radiosonde operation

